Encyclopaedia Aristasiana

Find in Entire Site Go

Backlinks...

Menu

Home
Search
List pages
Last Changes

Image Galleries

Main Sections

Aristasian Glossary
Aristasian Life and Culture
Aristasia Pura
Aristasia in Telluria
Philosophy and Religion
Sound and Kinematics
Telluria Criticism

Random Pages

The Way of the Sword
Essentialism
Pigeon-holing
Talks
Sai Rhave
Operation Bridgehead
Animal Thesis
Infraquirinelle
The Aristasian Legal System
Vintesse

Search

in:
Entire Site Go

Login

Login as...
User:
Password:
Login

Standard | Secure

Amazonia

The most easterly province of Aristasia Pura. Amazonia is ruled celestially by Sai Raya, the Angel of the Sun. It is by far the largest of the provinces and has no single earthly ruler; whole Empires exist in areas of Amazonia. It should be noted that the term "Amazonia" is not used in the province itself, where, if it is referred to as a whole, it is simply called the East.

Both Amazonia and Arcadia are unlike the other five nations in that each of them is larger than all five combined, and while they are theoretically part of the Westrenne Empire, only the westerly parts of those nations are actually in contact with the Empress of the West.

The far-Western Area of "Amazonia" (that shown on the map and a bit beyond) has rulers firmly loyal to the Westrenne Empress (whom they regard as Raihiranya Orvilanhela - the Empress of the World). As with Arcadia, things become less clear-cut as we move eastwards and eventually the border between "Amazonia" and Arcadia disappears as other forms of jurisdiction become more prominent.

We do not know as much about the East as we do about the West. Even in Sai Herthe itself, with the lack of modern communications in the East, it is not always easy to distinguish "hard fact" from "travellers' tales" - and of course there is less anxiety to do so than there would be in Telluria. Facts are as important for what they have to tell us as they are for their correspondence to the material surfaces of things.

But here are some things we do know: Some way east and south of our map is Rayapurh (Sun-City). Rayapurh was the last of the great Eastern successors to the Cairen (or Caeren) Empire. Rayapurh retains much of its old glory and the question of whether the Empress at Rayapurh is Raihiranya Orvilanhela or whether that title has now passed to the Empress in the West is one that may never be satisfactorily settled. There is a recognition in the East that these latter days are the Time of the Setting Sun (that is, of the West). There are some that call the Empress at Rayapurh the Little Empress of the South and some who hold that she is the true Spiritual Sun of the world.

East of Rayapurh we find many nations and principalities; some former Heiress-Empires of Caire, some continuing to claim Imperial glory in one degree or another; we find different races and peoples like the white-skinned Alvitsenhe (not pinkish-skinned like the Westrennes, but very white and almond-eyed); the great snow-capped mountain ranges, and beyond them Caire itself, its towers still standing but with no claimant to the Imperial Throne. The Chamber of the Empress is kept in its beautiful state, but the High Princess of Caire never uses it. There is no question that the seat of the Mayaraihiranya moved west long ago (that is, long before the time of present Westrenne Empire). Caire is still a great centre, perhaps the great centre of culture in the nether-East.

There are lands beyond Caire, and then the great and small islands of the Estrenne Sea.

Places in Amazonia

Rayapurh: the Holy City, often seen as the capital of the East

Miralene: a town in western Amazonia

Correspondences

Metal: Gold

Tellurian Analogies: Pre-patriarchal history ; Asia ; the Sun

The Cairen Flag

The flag of the Cairen Empire, which is the founding Empire of the current Historical era in Aristasia Pura and was established some 3,300 years ago, is used by several Eastern Princesses whose realms and monarchies are held to be the direct descendants of Caire. Because Westrenne technics are not effective far to the east, travel and communications between the West and the further East are very limited. The situation is thus not one of conflict and confusion, but of different arrangements prevailing in different places.

The flag symbolises, at the highest level, Dea as the Supernal Sun at the centre of Her created universe and, at the lower or "political" level, the Imperial City providing the lifeblood of the Empire, the maternal nourishment of civilisation and order. For a full account of the flag's symbolism, see Caire.

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